

# THE SILENT WORLD

Vol. IV.

WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY 15, 1874.

No. 4.

## TWO PICTURES.

AN old farm-house with meadows wide,  
And sweet with clover on each side;  
A bright-eyed boy who looks from out  
The door with woodbine wreathed about,  
And wishes, his one thought all day;  
"Oh! if I could but fly away  
From this dull spot the world to see,  
How happy, happy, happy,  
How happy I should be!"  
Amid the city's constant din,  
A man who round the world has been,  
Who 'mid the tumult and throng,  
Is thinking, thinking all day long:  
"Oh! could I only tread once more  
The field path to the farm-house door,  
The old, green meadow could I see,  
How happy, happy, happy,  
How happy I should be!"

## AMOS KENDALL.

XII.

IN LOVE.

NOT the least interesting incidents of Mr. Kendall's residence in Groton have thus far been touched upon in this biography. He was, when he began the study of the law, twenty-two years old, and had never been in love,—perhaps because he had been too busy. There was in Groton a family of three very charming young ladies, with two of whom, the oldest and the youngest, the third being absent, Mr. Kendall and Mr. Woodbury became acquainted soon after their establishment there. Mr. Woodbury had engaged himself to a country girl before he entered college; but the superior beauty and education of the elder of his new acquaintances caused him to regret his early entanglement. Being an honest man, the conflict between his sense of duty and a new-born attachment was very painful to him. What might have been the issue, had it depended entirely upon himself, may be considered problematical; but he was mostly happily relieved by his rustic *fiancee*. Hearing that he was paying attention to another lady, she received the addresses of a new lover, and married him. Being now free, Mr. Woodbury offered himself to the present object of his admiration, and was accepted.

In the mean time Mr. Kendall had become much interested in the youngest of the three sisters. Her youth, and his poverty and prospects, forbade anything like a matrimonial engagement, and for some months he had no distinct purpose in his frequent visits with his friend Woodbury but to pass an agreeable hour with lovely and intelligent young ladies. But, as often happens in such cases, a warm friendship assumed a character somewhat warmer, and perhaps with a vanity by no means peculiar to himself, he imagined that the lady's passion was no less ardent than his own. In this conviction he finally made up his mind to address her. But at this stage of the affair she left home and was absent some weeks. On her return he met her with ardor and was marked in his attentions. Her manner was not so cordial as he expected; but whether her apparent reserve was the result of a change in her feelings towards him, or was the expression of modesty natural under circumstances which indicated that affairs between them were speedily approaching a crisis, he was unable to determine. To satisfy his own mind

he resolved to find or make an opportunity for an explanation. She evidently understood his object, and thwarted his intentions. Finally, without ever broaching the subject to her, he became satisfied that he had entirely mistaken her feelings; that the acts and language which he had accepted as evidences of attachment to him were but the ebullitions of an artless, romantic nature; and that the change in her manner was due to her discovery that they had produced an effect upon him which she had never contemplated.

It would not be true to say that this discovery gave Mr. Kendall no pain; but it pointed out the path of duty. He at once resolved to dismiss her from his heart, to treat her heart as he did other female friends, and never thereafter, by word or act, to indicate that he had ever entertained a partiality for her. Though there was occasionally a heart-rebellion against this resolution, it was faithfully kept, and in a short time her presence excited no peculiar emotion. For a time she maintained a studied reserve towards him; but this was soon overcome by his prudent conduct, and they remained as good friends as if Cupid had never maliciously amused himself with their mistakes.

In the mean time Mr. Kendall had become acquainted with the other sister, whom he found to be worthy of his highest regard. The incidents which had occurred did not break off his visits to the family, by whom he was always received with the utmost cordiality. It was perhaps natural that he should, under the circumstances, be inclined to transfer his affections from one sister, by whom they were not reciprocated, to another, who might prove more appreciative. In this new attachment there was not that degree of romance which marked the former; but, perhaps for that very reason, it was more satisfactory. The object of it was older and better acquainted with the world, and possessed of all the qualities of head and heart necessary to make a man happy. Mr. Kendall had made up his mind to leave New England, and had no thought of marrying until he should be established in business, with an income adequate to the support of a family. Yet, having found that these affairs of the heart interfered very much with his studies and impaired his capacity for business, he became desirous to put an end to their distracting influence by an engagement which should settle the question of his future domestic relations, and leave his mind to pursue other objects undisturbed by restless passions. Entertaining these views, and satisfied that he should never find one better calculated to encourage and aid him in the rugged paths of life, he broached the subject to her, and was made quite happy by her reply. He told her frankly, that seeing no prospect of advancement in his profession in New England, he expected to settle somewhere in the South or West, and she thought it would make no difference to her. Thus this interesting affair seemed to have reached a satisfactory adjustment.

But, alas! "the course of true love never did run smooth." While he was preparing for his journey to Washington the lady left home on a visit to her friends in Boston. He wrote to her there, and it seemed to him a long time before an answer came. And when it arrived at last, it announced her indisposition to engage herself to a young man who was about to leave for a distant land, where he must necessarily form new associations and perhaps new attachments. An animated correspondence ensued, in which both parties were equally inflexible. Avowing her partiality for

him and her readiness to marry him if he would remain in New England, the lady firmly persisted in declining an engagement if he would not. On the other hand, he as firmly refused, for her sake, to remain in New England, where he could have but the faintest hopes of advancement. The affair ended in the exchange of tokens of friendship and mutual promises of correspondence, the bargain being sealed with a kiss, which was the first and the last.

Romantic youngsters may think the love was not very ardent on either side, when neither would, for the sake of the other, give up the point of difficulty. Theirs was not an unreasoning love. The lady's decision was justified by prudence. Though his would doubtless have been the same had he known that the separation was final, he had a strong hope that when he had established himself in business, no matter where, she would, if still single, be willing to marry him. Nor did he give up this hope until after he had begun business, when, at his request, his friend Woodbury put the question as if to satisfy his own curiosity, whether in case Kendall returned and addressed her, she would go with him to Kentucky, and received in reply a decisive "No!"

Time passed, and Mr. Woodbury was on the point of being married to the eldest of the three sisters, when she sickened and died. To him the shock was terrible. After several months Mr. Kendall advised him to turn his thoughts to the second sister, as one well calculated to fill the void in his heart occasioned by the loss of the elder. Though in his reply Woodbury scouted the idea of his ever marrying any one, not a year passed before he had acted upon Kendall's advice. In a few years, however, he died of consumption.

Mr. Kendall also married, and after five years was left a widower. His thoughts reverted to the girl he left behind him, now the widow of his friend Woodbury, and in a letter he indicated his disposition to renew the relations which once existed between them. Perceiving his drift, she at once put an end to all hope by replying that she would never leave her aged mother, then under her care, and hinting that she had no desire again to enter the matrimonial state. And she died a widow, at an advanced age.

Another singular incident may be mentioned in this connection. Mr. Kendall had an only son, and the third sister to whom he was once so enthusiastically attached had an only daughter. They casually met, contracted a mutual attachment for each other, and were married.

#### RECOLLECTIONS OF A DEAF-MUTE ARTIST.

##### TRENTON FALLS.

In the Summer of 1872, before I proceeded to Auburn, N. Y., I went to Trenton Falls, fourteen miles from Utica, where I had been sojourning in the pursuit of my profession, to paint some sketches of that weird gorge, which is one of the most remarkable freaks of Nature in the State of New York.

It would require several foolscap pages to describe the geological formations and their fossil deposits, and the grandeur and beauty of the varied scenery along the whole ravine. The lofty, precipitous cliffs, varying from 100 to 150 feet in height and from 150 to 300 feet apart, and fringed upon their rocky projections with luxuriant vegetation and trees of every form, together with the exquisite falls, invite all true artists to transfer them to canvas.

In order to enjoy to the fullest the sight of the four falls leaping over rocky terraces at irregular distances apart,—they being successively visible at the turns of the winding glen,—you must hug the wall while wending your way along the narrow ledge, with your hand passed over the chain-guard fastened to the wall, to prevent you from slipping down into the dark and turbulent stream beneath.

Years ago a lovely young lady slipped and fell into the stream, and her brother jumped after her to save her. They both were carried over one of the falls and drowned. And in consequence thereof the wealthy proprietor of the Falls, to ensure the safety of the visitors, placed chain-guards where the ledges are narrow and dangerous.

Sketching at any point under the shady cliff or trees is delightful, in spite of the disagreeable presence of pic-nickers who daily visit the place. The Irish Temperance Society with their invited friends on one day, and the Firemen and their wives or sweethearts on another day, annoying me by standing around and looking at my work, still behaved with a propriety remarkable for their social condition and habits. It was my uniform rule to take no notice of them and turn a deaf ear to such as might venture to speak to me. It was not pride but necessity that caused the above course of action. Doubtless my grey hairs and beard may have kept them within the bounds of decorum. Evidently they did not know I was a deaf-mute. But when wealthy visitors approached me, they did so with so much deference and politeness, apparently to ask a few questions, that I could not pursue the same course, and instead of making the gesture common among deaf-mutes meeting strangers, signifying that I was deaf, I always wrote in this wise:—"I regret my inability to hear, so please write what you wish to say." It is needless to say that I always derived much pleasure from my conversations with them.

Here I shall relate one of several incidents that occurred:—One afternoon I had a long talk with a pleasant party, consisting of an elderly lady and her grown-up son and daughters. They left me and proceeded slowly up in front of me, drinking in the beauties of the scene; all except the mother ascended the steep irregular steps leading to the stony platform which overlooks the beautiful river above the "High Fall," which I was sketching from below, and the old lady took a seat near the foot of the stairs. After some time, as I folded my things, it being the hour for my return to the hotel, she came and sat near me. Divining her object, I asked her if her children were coming back, and she answered in the affirmative, and that she was expecting them every moment; seeing that she feared to be left alone in the now solitary and gloomy glen, I remarked that I had better remain with her until her children returned. She cordially thanked me. Soon a suspicious-looking stranger, coming down the same steps, appeared rather suddenly, but left us abruptly when one of her daughters came in sight. Upon learning that her brother and sisters had decided to return to the hotel through the woods on the top of the cliff, I took the ladies under my protection down the dangerous path till we reached the head of another flight of steps, whereupon I took my leave of them.

My good mute readers, I cannot close this letter without giving you another incident, for it was one in which you all will feel much interested.

One day, after dinner, descending mechanically the last mentioned steps with my paint-box in my left hand and sketching easel in my right, I saw two ladies standing on the rocky platform on which the stairs rest, and making very queer movements. Methought they were old acquaintances of mine. One of them was a deaf-mute and the other was not. The mute lady held the arms of the hearing lady most frantically while the latter struggled hard to free her arms from the other's grip. Fully satisfied that my suspicions as to who they were were correct, I adroitly managed to sit on the step next to the last, just before the ladies, red in the face with excitement, turned their eyes upon the impertinent man who dared to dispute their ascent. No sooner had my familiar features been recognized than the hearing lady, turning to her friend, spelt CAR—at the same time the mute lady stuck her fore and middle fingers

astride her nose,—that being my individual sign. Need I describe the meeting between us at the bottom of the chasm with such romantic surroundings! One of them was Mrs. White, the former matron of the American Asylum at Hartford, whose matronly dignity and gentleness of manners in the faithful discharge of her duties have won her a host of admiring friends among the mutes. May her shadow never be less! The other was Miss Nancy Dillingham, still assistant matron at the same school. And may she live to a ripe old age, surrounded by loving friends!

Miss Dillingham informed me that she was drawing Mrs. White from the brink of the platform toward which the latter unconsciously stepped back as she arranged her dress in order to facilitate her ascent. The platform is several feet from the rocky shore; only three feet wide, and so slippery that, but for the presence of mind of her deliverer, Mrs. White's fall might in all probability have proved fatal.

JOHN CARLIN.

### IN MEMORIAM.

"KATIE died last Friday."

We turned the letter over and over in our hands, oh! how sadly! So she was dead; the fair girl with laughing eyes, beautiful features, and pretty ways that so endeared her to the hearts of all. Dead! dead before the coming of the sweet May-time when the young and beautiful should die. Dead, out under the snow. Dead, with dreary shadows creeping over her grave on these gray afternoons, and the stars coming out above her at night and shining pale in the ghastly light of the moon. Dead! with the wasted hands crossed lightly, the thin lips smiling sweetly, the soft light gone out of the dark, mellow eyes; and, as earth gently faded from sight,

"She heard the angels singing,  
From ways beyond the sun,  
'Home, home, come home to Heaven,  
Rest thee, thy work is done.'"

One of life's mysteries. There are so many of them, yet, we can never hope to fathom them. Why should she die? Why must she die when life held so much for her? when she was so gay, so bright, so beautiful? when she needed and wanted her here so much? Alas! the old queries that can not be answered. Will life's tangled skin ever become unraveled? No, not until we pass through the gates of Heaven, and God's hands smooth out the knotted threads.

Though the thought comes to us fraught with pain, that her merry laugh will never more be heard here, that her sunny face will never more brighten the halls of our beloved Institution, that her quick mind and loving heart will never more devise pleasures to gladden the passing hours, we dare not wish the life back that has drifted away from the restless, feverish longings of earth into the cool, restful shadows of the sea by the throne of God.

MISS SARAH CATHARINE WILLIAMS was born in Clinton Co., Ohio, on the 5th of May, 1853, from whence she removed with her parents to Clinton Co., Indiana, when nine years old. When four years old she lost her hearing while sick with the scarlet fever, but retained her speech so perfectly up to the date of her death that no one suspected from her speech that she was deaf. The young life so darkly overshadowed did not sink into the listlessness and gloom that follows the loss of hearing in many children of that age. There was a wonderfully active brain in that restless little head which, from babyhood, had gone seeking after every thing where aught was to be learned; and she did not now succumb to this terrible misfortune. "I have sat in my little chair and cried with vexation, because they would not answer my questions," she once said, referring to the bewilderment and indignation at the seeming

silence following after the occurrence of her deafness. But she soon turned to the alphabet, of which she had acquired a knowledge previous to her sickness, and began, with the aid of friends, that book-life which in future years was to be the chief source of her pleasures. When twelve years of age, she first entered the Indiana Institution as a pupil and although retained at home one year during her school-life by sickness, her natural abilities were so quick that she graduated from the High Class with the honors of the class at seventeen years of age. The following Autumn found her installed as a teacher. Her tact and skill, energy and force of character, and eager, inquiring mind bid fair to soon place her in the front rank of skillful, efficient teachers. For over two years she filled this position more than well, but late in the fall of the third year we all found that something was the matter with Katie. The merry face was sometimes sad, the laughing eyes too bright, the fair face less healthy in appearance. Alas! it told its tale too soon—consumption had fastened itself upon her frame and she was going from us. Ere many weeks she was obliged to resign her position and return home to place herself under medical care. How many whispered prayers from loving, aching hearts followed her! Perhaps God would be good to us and spare her. Then there was the old fluctuation between hope and despair attendant upon that lingering disease. Down almost into the gloom of the fatal valley, then up again nearly into the flush of health. She would live! What cheering words she wrote: "You can little imagine the joy I feel to think that I will be really well, for when I left you I never thought I would again breathe the pure, sweet air of May." But death had marked her, and she grew worse again until, with many turnings of the tide, the life ran surely, slowly out, and, on the 16th of January, 1874, she was "called up higher" from her home near Kirklin, Clinton Co., Indiana, a little over a year after she left us. The particulars of her death are not known, we only know that she was ready; that it was a beautiful falling asleep into the Everlasting Arms. Over her grave we can only mournfully say,

"It was a brief, mysterious life—  
Her life, whom late we buried here;  
It saw the promise of the Spring,  
But not the harvest of the year.  
The sweet head drooped beneath the sun,  
Ere yet the sun had turned it sere."

A bright, beautiful life, full of promise of good, has gone out, but, thank God! not in darkness.

The following resolutions were read and adopted at a meeting of the teachers of the Indiana Institution as an appropriate expression of the emotions that occupy all breasts;

WHEREAS, It has pleased our kind Father in his wisdom and love to take to himself one for years associated with us as a beloved pupil, and for a brief period as our valued friend and co-worker,

*Resolved*, That in the death of Sarah C. Williams the Institution has lost one of its most honored graduates, and that we as officers have lost an associate endeared to us by her many ennobling qualities of heart and mind.

*Resolved*, That our cup of sorrow is not wholly unmingled, for we know that all is now well with the departed one, and that her body of suffering and death has been clothed with light and life immortal.

*Resolved*, That we heed the warning thus held out to us, and that we too, be prepared when the summon comes to us to "Come up higher."

*Resolved*, That we deeply sympathize with the parents and friends of the deceased in their sad affliction.

The committee, who prepared these resolutions, consisted of Misses S. J. Crabb and N. S. Hiatt, and Mr. W. H. Latham. It was also voted to send copies of them to the Clinton papers, and to THE SILENT WORLD.

LAURA.

# THE SILENT WORLD.

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WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 15, 1874.

THERE is a rumor abroad that Mr. Batterson, the contractor for the Clerc Memorial Monument, is decided in the opinion that the work cannot be finished by the end of August next. And furthermore it is said that the officers of the New England Gallaudet Association of Deaf-Mutes are considering the advisability of postponing the convention fixed for next summer until the monument is completed and then holding it in Hartford. If it should be deferred until the Summer of '75 there will be three conventions of deaf-mutes in session at the same time: that of the Empire State Association at Watertown; that of the Ohio Alumni Association at Columbia; and that of the New England Associations.

IN glancing over the last few numbers of THE SILENT WORLD one is struck with the joyous manner in which the inmates of all the Institutions for the deaf and dumb celebrated the holidays. We are glad to see this evidence that the children of these schools are thus encouraged to give full play to the exuberant spirits common to youth. We all grow old fast enough, and if we are not watchful, our light-heartedness leaves us all too soon; therefore children should be encouraged to be happy before the trials and troubles of life come to cloud their brows, and sadden their hearts. Nothing is sadder than to see a youthful face worn down with sorrow and hardship—a face that never laughs; or youthful limbs that never romp and play. Then, too, it is rejuvenating to mature hearts and minds to see boys and girls innocently enjoying themselves, and so teachers are benefitted by thus ministering to the happiness of their wards.

LATER advices from Indianapolis, Indiana, inform us that its prominent firm of peanut venders has come to grief. The lame and one-eyed member, after a time ceased to devote his *undivided* attention to business, and the *silent* partners gave *signs* of perturbed spirits. At length the storm which had been brewing for some time broke over the stand and a silent war of words went on nearly a whole day in the presence of a crowd of delighted spectators, who were highly edified by the remarks made on both sides. These remarks were doubtless of a deeply affecting character, as the visages of the debators were at times fearfully distorted with agitation. The local paper says that the matter finally ended in the silent partners seizing the movable articles and using them as projectiles, the head of the martyred peanut prince being the objective point. The latter, who was overpowered by numbers, outflanked by superior generalship, and beat about the scone with cigar-boxes, retired from the field after a manful but unsuccessful fight, and was seen shortly after emerging from a neighboring clothing store with his lineaments swathed in soothing cloths saturated with healing liniments. The victors, from some cause, evacuated the field so nobly won, and when last seen the original proprietor was once more master of all he surveyed through the partially closed lids of his one eye.

## THE CHURCH MISSION TO DEAF-MUTES.

THE first annual report of the Church Mission to Deaf-Mutes has been received. In it we are glad to note evidences of the growing field and importance of this organization. The general manager, the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, D.D., in his report to the trustees, gives a brief history of the education of deaf-mutes in this country, and an account of the providential circumstances which led to the establishment of the mission to deaf-mutes. He recognizes God's guiding hand in all the events which have prepared for him this field of labor and placed him in it; and credit is given to the gentlemen who have done so much to aid in this work.

The organization is in a very prosperous condition; and of its work Rev. Mr. Gallaudet thus speaks in his concluding remarks:

"I trust that it may have the means and the men to establish church services for deaf-mutes in all the larger cities of our country. I trust it may ever take a true interest in everything which may promote the temporal and spiritual welfare of our deaf-mute brethren, encouraging them to make the best use of their education at the various Institutions, co-operating with them in their efforts to obtain proper employment, guiding and counselling them in all their difficulties, watching over them in times of sickness and trouble, receiving them, when necessary, to a cheerfully appointed and well administered Home, and at last, in the touching rites of christian burial, consigning their bodies to the dust in hopes of a joyful resurrection, when all human imperfections shall be done away forever. I trust that as the years move on, the practical results accomplished by our recently founded society will, with God's blessing, be so apparent, that it will have the active sympathy and co-operation, not only of all the deaf-mutes of our country, but also of the directors and instructors of all the institutions. All are working for one common object, the enlightening, the comforting, the elevating of those children of the Heavenly Father whom He has in his wisdom deprived of hearing and speaking."

Members of this society consist of those persons paying two dollars and upwards a year towards its support, and they are elected by the trustees. Any person paying one hundred dollars at one time, is eligible to life-membership. The following are life-members: Mr. John Ackers, Mrs. John Ackers, Mr. R. J. Livingston, Mrs. G. P. Clapp, Mr. William O. Fitzgerald, Miss Catharine Blauvelt, Mr. D. Colden Murray, Mr. E. B. Wesley and Mr. J. C. Tracy.

## VISIBLE SPEECH.

NATIONAL CONVENTION OF INSTRUCTORS OF THE DEAF AND DUMB,  
AT WORCESTER, MASS.

A CONVENTION of the instructors of the deaf and dumb by the system of articulation was held in Worcester, Mass., on the 24th January. It was the first convention of the kind that ever assembled in this country, and a large number of teachers were present from various institutions for the instruction of the deaf and dumb in different sections of the country. The special subject for consideration was the recently introduced system of teaching articulation by visible speech to the deaf and dumb.

The convention was called to order, at about 10 A. M., by Professor A. Graham Bell, of Boston, son of the original inventor of the system discussed, and Dr. Ira Allen, chairman of the Boston School Committee of the Deaf and Dumb School, was elected president, and Professor Stone, principal of the American Asylum, at Hartford, was elected secretary. The exercises were opened with prayer by Professor C. R. Treat, of the Boston University, after which Dr. Allen spoke briefly of the rise and progress of the school for the deaf and dumb, now in quite successful operation. Professor

A. Graham Bell then spoke of the origin of the system, saying that it was invented by his father, Professor A. Melville Bell, of Edinburgh, in 1849. It planned the representation of sounds, not as in the usual alphabets by arbitrary symbols, but by actual symbolic illustrations of the action of the vocal organs. The plan was designed to aid philological researches, but in 1861 it was thought the system might be of aid in teaching deaf-mutes to articulate so as to be understood, since deaf persons are only dumb because they do not hear, having no defect of the vocal organs. In 1869 the first experiment in this teaching was made, and it proved successful. Introduced into this country two years ago, the system has already come into general use at many of the leading institutions for the instruction of the deaf and dumb. The pupils are shown the position and action of the vocal organs required for the articulation of certain sounds, and the symbols are made as closely as possible to resemble these diagrams. These "self-interpreting physiological letters," of course, write all languages in one alphabet. With the knowledge of these symbols there comes also an additional facility in understanding spoken language by watching the lips of the speaker. After some discussion in regard to the demand for some written or printed exercises, it was voted that a manuscript periodical should be established, to be contributed to by the teachers in the different schools in this branch of instruction in the country. It was also decided that some kind of charts were needed for class or individual instruction, and the convention expressed itself ready to support Mr. Bell in issuing a series of charts. The convention did not seem inclined to express the belief that it was yet time to cast a fount of type for the symbols and attempt the printing of teachers' manuals or books for pupils. Mr. Bell illustrated the origin, formation and use of the symbols by diagrams, several of the teachers, assisting by indicative gestures. His claim that all kinds of sounds could be represented was sustained by two of the teachers, who retired, and read at sight symbols for sounds and words suggested by members of the convention and by visitors. After a short discussion of the best form of articulate exercises, the convention adjourned till afternoon.

The afternoon session, beginning at about 2 o'clock, was opened with remarks by Professor L. B. Munroe, of the Boston University, on the means of evolving thought in deaf-mutes. He was followed by Professor Charles R. Treat, of the same institution, who gave a lecture on physiology and hygiene and the voice. The president, Dr. Allen, then made some remarks on discipline, and Mr. Wm. M. Chamberlain, of *The Marblehead Messenger*, who has been totally deaf since he was five years old spoke on lip-reading. The possibilities of lip-reading are well illustrated in the case of Mr. Chamberlain. Mr. Chamberlain, who is now 42 years old, has been stone deaf since he had the scarlet fever at the age of five, but his parents took the greatest pains to teach him to read by observing the motion of a speaker's lips, and he has also derived great assistance from studying the motion of his own lips before a mirror. He cannot understand every word in a running conversation, but recognizes enough to almost always understand a person's meaning. Mr. Chamberlain has attained such proficiency in the art of lip-reading and articulation that during the war he enlisted and successfully passed a medical examination. He was in the service for some time, when one night his secret was discovered, and he was discharged. Upon the night in question he had occasion to go to the spring supplying the camp with water, when he was challenged by the guard. Owing to the darkness he could not see the sentinel, and of course did not hear him. He was arrested and had an examination the next morning, and in response to the question, "Are you deaf?" he answered, "If I were deaf, how could I understand your question?" He successfully passed the examination,

until a further investigation of his ears revealed the fact that he was totally deaf.

Mr. A. G. Bell also read an interesting paper on lip-reading.

It was voted to hold another convention before next June, and Miss H. K. Rogers, principal of the Clarke Institution, at Northampton; Miss Sarah Fuller, principal of the Boston School for the Deaf and Dumb, and Professor Stone, principal of the American Asylum, at Hartford, were appointed a committee to arrange for the same.

The convention was an entirely new feature in this day of conventions, and was quite a success, many of our prominent educators being present, among them Superintendent A. P. Marble, of the Worcester schools. Letters were received from Professor A. Melville Bell, formerly of the London University, now resident at Brantford, Ontario, C. W., who is the inventor of the system discussed; Miss Trask, teacher of the Illinois Institution; President E. M. Gallaudet and Professor Chickering of the National College for the Deaf and Dumb, at Washington; Superintendent J. D. Philbrick of the Boston public schools; and also from the Sisters and Evangelists of the Catholic Institute at Buffalo. The convention adjourned about 4 o'clock p. m.—*Boston Globe*.

#### [CORRESPONDENCE.]

#### CAN SUCH THINGS BE?

To the Editors of *The Silent World*:

I WRITE, that it may be known to your readers, that the State of New York furnishes the money wherewith a local country newspaper, with three or four columns on its last page called a deaf-mute department, is distributed free to deaf-mutes living in the State. Whether this newspaper needs such aid to keep it alive it is not material to inquire; but your correspondent, in common with many others, would like to be informed whether the number of persons who receive the paper free is fixed by the editor himself. If it is, I apprehend that the number can be dropped to fifty, or perhaps to ten.

Will the Legislature of the State of New York continue to grant an annual appropriation of five or six hundred dollars to supply ten deaf-mutes with a local country newspaper, if the faithful ten can be found?

Are there ten deaf and dumb persons in the State of New York who are so degraded that they will consent to receive free a paper published under this arrangement?

Yours, Respectfully,

C. AUG. BROWN.

Belfast, Maine, Jan. 22, 1874.

#### PERSONAL.

MR. VARNUM B. WRIGHT, of the American Asylum, has removed from Lowell, Mass., to Nashua, N. H.

MR. ROBERT D. LIVINGSTON, a graduate of Hartford, and recently a resident of Philadelphia, now has a situation in the United States Custom House at Boston, Mass.

MR. CHARLES REED, formerly connected with the Deaf-Mute College, his friends will be glad to learn, is now married, and settled in Menasha, Wisconsin, and is enjoying life.

MR. W. P. WADE, of the American Asylum, the Secretary of the Boston Library Association, gave a very interesting lecture before the members lately, and the room was well crowded. Mr. Wade is one of the best story-tellers the Bostonians have.

MR. C. AUG. BROWN and wife, of Belfast, Maine, received, as a New Year's gift from Heaven, another daughter. The child was born on New Year's day, and the happy parents ask if any other deaf and dumb couple have been so blessed on that day.

MR. F. L. REID, a teacher in the Nebraska Institution, wishes to refer those friends of his who dub him with the title of "Professor," to an article headed by that word, in *THE SILENT WORLD* for September, 1871. That article, he says, expresses his sentiments, and he does not wish to be so classed.

THOMAS SHACKFORD, a prominent deaf-mute of Boston, and an officer in its religious and literary associations, died suddenly of heart disease on the 29th of January and was buried on the 30th. He had attended a meeting of the United Society of Deaf-Mutes the day before his death apparently in good health.

MR. G. W. CHASE, of the Ohio Institution, recently passed through Washington on his way to Boston, and gives his impressions of Washington in an article in *The Advance*, which is full of "sarkasm." Mr. Chase is on his way to England to look after some property on which the Chase family has some claim. Mr. William K. Chase, of Florida, another member of the family, has no hopes of getting rich from that source, and thinks his friend has gone on "a wild goose chase."

### COLLEGE RECORD.

#### BIRTH-DAYS.

A PLEASANT custom has gradually been gaining ground in the social circle of the Institution, of observing the birth-day of each member of the family by some slight token. Those who have had the grace to be born during term time (among whom unhappily we are not numbered) usually have the satisfaction of knowing that it is for their sake that an uncommonly tender bird adorns the board. Our estimable matron, Miss Pratt, is supposed to keep the list of birth-days and apportion to each his particular style of turkey; and we are sure that in her charitable hands our failings are lightly dealt with and our virtues become as savory as the dish on which we feast.

But it was not she who arranged the birth-day celebrations of which we here speak more particularly. The cases were out of her jurisdiction, over at the house of our President, and thither we all wended on the night of the 23d of January to join in a surprise party to Mrs. Gallaudet. The President had attended to all the preliminaries, and Mrs. G., on returning from a call at the Institution, found her house ablaze with light and the glory of flowers, and was there greeted by the cheerful wishes of the whole College, presented by each member in person and supplemented by those of many friends from the city. There, too, she found an additional pleasure in meeting Mrs. Budd, mother of Mrs. Thomas Gallaudet, and her niece, Miss Virginia Gallaudet, from New York, who had just arrived for a visit.

After a pleasant reunion the guests were conducted to the dining room and there partook of refreshments. The centre of the table was graced by the "candle-cake" whose burning tapers told the number of summers that rest so lightly on our dear lady's head. Out of gallantry our representative did not count the "candles," but if we are permitted to judge of a lady's age by her kindness of heart and manner we should say they could hardly have numbered twenty-seven.

The next birth-day was that of the President himself, whose "candle-cake," on the 5th inst., bore thirty-seven tapers of wax. It has been the habit of the boys of the Primary Department to celebrate this day by a torch-light procession, and last year while the President was in Europe, they testified to the loving place he occupies in their hearts even when far away by coming out in more than usual splendor. This year the President claimed his right to entertain his little friends, and on the afternoon of the 5th they were all gathered at his house, and there enjoyed a sight of the

many treasures which the President has brought back with him from Europe. It was a very pleasant party, which, with its elegant supper, will long be remembered by the children.

This was exclusively the children's party, but in the evening there was a gathering of the teachers to listen to the reading of a touchingly beautiful story, translated from the French of Emile Rambert by Mrs. Gallaudet. Only a portion of it was read, the remainder being reserved for other occasions.

Then came the supper. It may not have been distinctly intended, ed, but there was a great resemblance between it and those scenes of German social life, which the President pictured so vividly to us at the February Social in Chapel Hall. At least, what was beautiful in them was there, supplemented by the exquisite taste of Mrs. Gallaudet and her niece, which revealed itself in the arrangement of the table and in the flowers so profusely scattered around. There was also a nose-gay for every person, which at this wintry time was specially appreciated. At the close, the "candle-cake" was cut up into generous portions, distributed, and borne away by the departing guests, who, with many good and disinterested wishes, hope for the continued happy recurrence of the day.

PRESENTATION DAY comes on the 15th of April.

MORE snow-balling; more smashed windows; leaner wallets; whew! THE Seniors are busy making extracts from the Library for those orations.

PROFESSOR—"What is heat?" STUDENT, (courageously)—"An invisible current of warmth."

THE organization of a foot-ball club has been completed, and a "Rugby oval" obtained.

MRS. FAY's mother, Mrs. Bradshaw, left us on the morning of the 5th, twelve hours too soon.

THE North-Eastern Market on H Street has been opened, and the boys can now get their mince-pies cheap.

THERE is a panic in hats and they are very scarce among the students. The hat-rack hangs neglected and useless.

THE students are effecting a rapid sale of all their cast-off clothing to the laborers at work on the sewer along Boundary Street.

THE sky-light over the pantry of the College dining-room was smashed by a snow slide from the roof of the Hall one day recently, during tea-time, and there was quite a clatter among the dishes and some screams from the waiter-girls.

PROF. GORDON has been called home by a telegram informing him of the dangerous illness of his sister. This is a contingency which we, who are gathered here from distant homes have continually before us, and Prof. G. has the heartfelt sympathy of all.

### INSTITUTION NEWS.

#### NEW YORK.

Two weeks since the second death of the term occurred. Like the first, it was a little girl and a new pupil. This one, Lucy Tiffany by name, was eight years old, and first came to school last Christmas day. She caught cold in very changeable weather, and bronchitis was the agent that summoned her to a better world. Her school-mates say she appeared intelligent and amiable, but fragile.

The forty little boys who are cooped up in the Mansion House, are taught according to the old hours of study, from nine to twelve, and from two to four; whereas the four hundred and sixty boys and girls who remain in the main building, are in school from 8 A. M. to 1 P. M., and have no school after dinner. It is rumored that "the powers that be" are seriously pondering on a change of school hours.

A curious accident happened in my school-room this morning. The rooms are warmed by hot steam in iron pipes: when cool this steam becomes water. The sudden cold snap yesterday froze up the pipes, and when they were thawed out again, one of them was found to have burst. The room soon filled with steam, which compelled teacher and pupils to beat a retreat to another room till damages could be repaired. For some hours those who curiously came and peered in at the door, saw a fog rivaling in obscurity the densest fog that ever wrapped London. But we trust to be all right again to-morrow.

J. R. B.

January 26, 1874.

## MARYLAND.

THE handsome report of this Institution has been received. Since the date of the last report ninety-nine pupils have been in attendance, sixty-two of whom are males and thirty-seven females. The most of these are from Baltimore, forty-four, and fourteen are from Washington County. Of the above number twelve have been discharged during the year, leaving the number present at the close of last year eighty-seven. It is claimed that there is a new and more advanced course of study, and that the standard of scholarship has been raised. Regret is expressed by the principal that the industrial department has not been extended by the addition of new trades. The shoe-shop, the only trade which has been undertaken thus far, has been successful, having nearly paid its way, and what is considered more important, has turned out not only good work, but good workmen. Three of the boys who learned the trade there have, since leaving school, found employment at fair wages, one of them at high rates of pay. Less than half of the boys are now receiving mechanical instruction, as the remainder could not be employed in the shop without an additional foreman, even if the facilities in other respects were sufficient. The necessity of providing deaf-mutes with trades is illustrated by a fact mentioned by the principal, that in nearly all the frequent cases in which he is asked for advice and assistance by deaf-mutes out of employment, he finds that the applicant is not the master of any trade. Variety in the employments taught is very desirable. These are expected to be introduced at an early period.

The commencement of the year 1873 was marked by the removal from the old barracks, which had been the home of the school for more than four years, to the two sections of the new building, the center and south wing, which afford greatly improved accommodations. The erection of these sections absorbed the appropriation of \$100,000 made by the Legislature in 1870, and the additional appropriation of \$100,000 made in 1872 was lost by an omission in the bill, which rendered it inoperative. The board was thus not only left without means to erect the north wing of the building, designed for the male pupils, but would not have been able to finish, heat and furnish the center and south wings, and transfer the school to the new building, unless Enoch Pratt, Esq., of Baltimore had generously furnished the necessary funds, which he did upon the assumption that the Legislature upon its resuming in 1874 would appropriate a sufficient amount to reimburse him. It will now require an appropriation of \$125,000 to meet the entire wants of the Institution.

Mr. Ely, the principal, and his assistants are building up a noble institution and the efficient manner in which they are carrying on their work will soon place it in the front rank.

## NEBRASKA.

THE number of pupils has increased to twenty-six. This is a larger number by three than has ever before been at school. The classes are four in number and each of the two teachers instructs two classes, and notwithstanding this disadvantage, flattering progress is made.

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors took place in December. They do not meet often as the members reside in different parts of the State.

The Institution was recently cut off from Omaha by the closing of the road heretofore used to reach the city. It passed through a private farm and a new purchaser did not like the invasion of his premises. They tried to find a new route but every one objected to the road passing through his farm, and at last the city took the matter in hand and decided to open a road in the Spring.

A new furnace has been put in which warms about half of the building. Another is to be put in very soon to warm the remaining rooms.

The holidays were enjoyed very much, the pupils mingling in social intercourse and passing the time in innocent games. Two pupils of the Iowa Institution paid the Institution a visit and contributed to the amusements of New Year's Day.

The boys have, of late, been busy in catching quails and rabbits in traps. One boy caught six quails in one trap at one time, but five of them made their escape afterwards through the carelessness of their keeper, and the sixth was, out of compassion, allowed to join its five companions.

Some weeks before the close of the old year, Mr. and Mrs. Kinney and their daughter, with Miss Collins and Miss Howard, drove over to the Iowa Institution and had a pleasant visit.

The place retains something of its original wildness, and as a proof of this you may be interested to know that, recently, while your correspondent was returning to the Institution from Omaha, with Mr. Kinney in the Institution carriage, we were both startled by the appearance of a large, full-grown he-wolf which stopped in the road about forty feet ahead of us and snuffed the air, perhaps scenting the fresh meat which we had with us. Fortunately he was alone, and, as these cowardly beasts are only brave in packs, we received no injury.

Strong winds prevail around the Institution during the winter and do some damage to fences, and make it uncomfortable out-doors.

A long board fence seven feet high and forty feet long was recently blown down.

The inmates of the Institution were lately deeply grieved by the news of the death of Miss Annie Griggs, a recent pupil of the school, who left last year, and died on the 2d of January of consumption. At the time she was visiting her sister in Indiana; and she was at one time a pupil in Indiana Institution.

F. L. R.

## OHIO.

ON Inauguration Day thousands of people flocked to Columbus from all parts of the State. The old Democratic guards were out in full force to make the inauguration of their governor a grand occasion. They do not enjoy this in Ohio very frequently and they were determined to have a jolly time. Various military companies from different parts of the State, were present. A grand procession, and an inauguration ball for the evening, were announced. The afternoon was a holiday for the pupils so as to give them an opportunity to see the procession. The Stars and Stripes had been unfurled from our top-mast at an early hour, and at about 3 p. m. the pupils moved in a solid column from the Institution down town to a place where every thing of importance could easily be seen. They did not have to wait long ere the procession made its appearance; but they were somewhat disappointed as to its grandeur, and it was not so imposing as expected because of the non-arrival of some of the military companies which were to have taken part in it. But what there was of it was good, and, better than all, the pupils had a good opportunity to see the new governor.

Quite a large number of visitors came to the Institution during the day and the day following the Inauguration, among whom were many friends of pupils here at school. There were some comical incidents. One peculiar gentleman with a mighty red face, and stout appearance, thinking the dining hall free to all when the pupils filed in to dinner, apparently got lost, and seated himself comfortably in a chair at one of the tables and was determined to have something to eat. Of course the place belonged to some other person whose face became quite as red as the gentleman's when he made his appearance and claimed his place, but the man was not disposed to yield his place easily. But seeing all eyes turned toward him in disgust, he became aware that some thing was wrong and became a little confused. At this critical moment a gentlemanly attendant came to his rescue and piloted him out in safety.

A House Committee from the Legislature recently made a visit and spent nearly a whole day in examining the condition of the Institution.

The January social which was to have been on the 13th, came off on the evening of 20th; all who were there had a pleasant time; and the pupils enjoyed it amazingly. These monthly socials are becoming more and more popular with the pupils.

The January examination began on the 14th of January and closed on the 27th. The grade throughout the school averaged very well, though many did not go as high as they expected. They are determined, however, to make it all right next June.

Superintendent MacIntire, from the Indiana Institution for Deaf and Dumb, recently made the Ohio Institution a short visit. He addressed the pupils in the Chapel.

The Ohio state institutions, in the vicinity of Columbus, which thus far have been supplied with gas from the city gas-works, will soon be supplied with gas manufactured at the Ohio Penitentiary, where gas-works have been constructed for that purpose.

A squad of convicts have been constantly at work during the past few months laying the necessary pipes from the Penitentiary to the various institutions. They are now laying the pipes across the grounds of this Institution. In about ten days the work will be finished, and the school will thereafter receive its supply of gas from the Penitentiary.

Business is a little dull this winter. At the beginning of January a large number of hands were discharged at the book-bindery. The contract the shoe-shop had with a house in Columbus has also been discontinued since the money pressure. Local news is scarce, the fearful mud that adorns the streets excepted; and that is a very old item.

Jan. 31, 1874.

F. Z.

## NEW BRUNSWICK.

It is with pleasure that we learn that the new school recently established in St. John is now not only a night and Sunday school, but also a day school. This step is owing in a great measure to the liberality of the deaf-mute residents of St. John who contributed in sums varying from \$1 to \$11 in gold. All but three gave more than \$1; and many render considerable aid in furnishing the school room, and in collecting and teaching the scholars. These deaf-mutes are thrifty citizens all of whom have respectable bank accounts and benevolent hearts.

The paragraph that recently appeared in these columns relating to this school should have been credited to *The St. John Telegraph*.

## THE FORTNIGHT.

A GRANDSON of Benedict Arnold died at Great Messington, England, on Nov. 27, at the age of eighteen.

Ninety-five pairs of twins and one collection of triplets were added to the population of Chicago last year.

The strike among the coal-miners at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., has ended, the men going to work at the old rates of pay.

McCarty, who killed J. B. Mordecai in a duel in Richmond last summer, was, on the 24th of January, found guilty of "involuntary manslaughter," and fined \$500.

The Association of American colleges, has decided to hold the next series of races between college oarsmen on Saratoga Lake, New York.

The English Duke of Edinburgh, second son of Victoria, was married on the 23d of Jan. to the Russian Grand Duchess Maria. It was a very gorgeous and costly affair.

The total debt of North Carolina since the war has been increased from \$18,000,000 to upwards of \$34,000,000. The interest on the debt has not been paid for two years or more.

It has been officially reported that Dr. Livingstone died of dysentery, while travelling from Lake Bembe to Unyanyembe. Still some people doubt it as he has so often been reported dead before.

Much damage was done in Buffalo by a storm which broke up the ice on Lake Erie and dashed it against the wharves, the vessels moored thereto, the grain-elevators and bridges across the river.

"What is a more exhilarating sight," asks a Vermont paper, "than to see eighteen handsome girls sliding down hill on an ox-sled?" "Nineteen," says the experienced editor of *The Boston Post*.

The Rev. Mr. Drake and his wife, of Lagrange County, Ind., who died suddenly and were buried together a short time since, were poisoned by tearing green paper from the walls of a room preparatory to repapering.

A man, in New York, recently went on a drunken spree and left his horse, fastened by a chain around the neck, to starve. Mr. Bergh prosecuted him and he was sentenced to one month's imprisonment and \$50 fine.

Corn meal, heated and placed in bags, is recommended as a substitute for hot water bottles and such like appliances for restoring warmth to the sick. It is said to weigh less, retain heat longer, and does not chill when cold.

The Hon. John R. Lynch, colored, is the youngest man in the United States House of Representatives. He was a slave, without education, at Natchez until the Union army entered that town. He is but twenty-six years old.

Congress has decided to still further investigate the charges against the government of the District of Columbia. It is alleged that much dishonesty has been practiced in carrying forward the great system of improvement now going forward.

Major Johnson, hysterically afflicted, imagined that he had swallowed a mouse. He sent for Dr. Daniel Pfifer. "Oh, doctor," he exclaimed, "I will swallow anything you may advise me to take." "Well, then, swallow a cat!" said the indignant Dan.

One of our smart exchanges thinks that the near sighted hen that ate the saw-dust, supposing it to be corn meal, then went and laid bureau knobs, set on them three weeks and hatched out a complete set of parlor furniture, was a pretty fair hen.

The new year is beginning with a very considerable emigration of the best negro labor from Georgia to the West. Georgia lost, last year, according to reliable data, not less than twenty thousand of her able-bodied laborers, and all of them belonging to her planting interest.

Hundreds of well-to-do English families are preparing to emigrate to Virginia in the Spring. Land has already been purchased by Englishmen in Amelia County to the extent of \$50,000, and the settlers are well pleased to own their farms instead of renting land at home for \$40 an acre.

A new plan is to be tried with Michigan convicts. The striped garments are to be abolished. The prisoners are to be allowed to correspond with their friends. Those who are uneducated are to be taught: and, when liberated, each man is to receive a suit of clothes, \$10 in money, with whatever he has earned by overwork.

A joint resolution has passed the House of Representatives calling for an investigation into the official conduct of Gen. Howard. He is to be tried by a court-martial of five officers, and it is said he wishes it, feeling confident that his innocence can be proved. Let us hope it will be, for 'tis sad to see so bright a christian reputation tarnished.

A New Hampshire clergyman, spending the summer for the sake of his health on Star Island, volunteered to preach in an unoccupied church during his stay. The church was accordingly opened, and he ministered to their religious wants through the season. But he did not learn how highly his efforts were appreciated until his departure, when his magnanimous listeners sent him a bill for the use of the church.

The individual members of the late government of Spain have sent to the President a beautiful sword, which is now in the possession of the State Department. It is one of the famous Toledo blades. On one side of the sword is inscribed a list of all the battles in which he was engaged during the war of the rebellion, and on the other is the legend: "Let us have peace." It has a basket hilt carved by hand instead of being cast. The scabbard is of polished steel without ornaments.

Five negroes were killed in a row, near Montrose, Alabama, recently. Two of them got into a dispute, and one shot the other dead. A brother of the slain ran up with an axe and split open the head of the man who had fired the fatal shot. A friend of dead man No. 2 killed murderer No. 2 with an axe, and a fifth negro man laid the last axe-man low with the same deadly weapon. Before the fourth man was cold, another axe laid No. 5 dead on the heap. The surviving murderer is abroad.

Goethe called on Schiller one day, and not finding him at home seated himself at his friend's writing table to note down various matters. He was soon seized with a strange indisposition from which he nearly fainted, but finding it proceeded from a dreadful odor he traced it to a drawer, which he found full of decayed apples. He stepped out of the room to inhale the fresh air, when he met the wife of Schiller, who said her husband kept the drawer always filled with rotten apples because the scent was so beneficial to him that he could not think or work without it.

There is a gentleman in this town of the name of Jones, says the *Eureka* (Nev.) *Sentinel*, whose beard is three feet three inches long. It is of splendid growth, almost as soft and as fine as a lady's hair, and is really a curiosity in its way. Mr. Jones stands six feet and one inch high, and his beard, when allowed its liberty, strikes him about the knees. He seldom, however, makes a display of it. He always keeps it braided and confined within his shirt-bosom, so that persons seeing him on the street would not dream that his beard was of more than ordinary length.

Business in Havana is extremely dull, and trains from the country bearing produce into the city are often despoiled by bands of marauders who are made up of trackmen, bucket-shop frequenters, and 'longshoremen, and who sally forth under cover of night. Defenceless women and children, whose husbands, fathers and brothers are absent in the army of free Cuba or upon business, are visited daily with outrages and brutalities too horrible to mention. A lady is on her way to New York whose back is scarred and marked with the teeth of bloodhounds by which she was hunted down after she had fled to the woods when her house was attacked by a band of ruffians in the absence of her husband. Assassinations are common, and unless the victim is of some notoriety no notice is taken of the murder.

A bee raiser in New England is said to have patented an invention for the protection of bees from the attacks of the honey-moth which enters the hives at night and rifles the stores. The idea arose out of his familiarity with the daily routine, not of bees only, but of hens. Hens, he observed, retire to rest early; bees seek repose earlier still; no sooner are they sunk in slumber than the moth steals into their abode and devours the produce of their toil. He has now built a stand of hives with a hen house above it. The bees first betake themselves to their dwelling and settle themselves for the night. The hens then come home to roost on their perch, and, as they take their place upon it, their weight sets some simple mechanism to work which at once shuts the doors of all the hives. When the day dawns, however, the hens leave their roost, the removal of their weight from the perch raises the hive doors and gives egress to the bees in time for their morning's work.